M/s. Sumitomo Corporation. Government of India has given counter guarantee for this supply. No central assistance is necessary for this purpose in view of the above facts.

(d) Does not arise.

Corporatisation of Major Ports

*239 SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to corporatise all the 11 major ports to world standard;

(b) if so, the names of such ports; and

(c) by what time this plan would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) and (b) A decision has been taken for phased corporatization of existing Major Ports starting with the new Major Port at Ennore followed by Jawaharlal Nehru and Haldia Ports.

(c) No time schedule has been prescribed for implementation of the plan.

Delay in repayment of excess Tax paid by assessees

*240 SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is enormous delay by income tax authorities to repay the excess tax paid by the assessees;

(b) if so, the number of such cases and the period since when these cases are pending alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to clear such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) All possible efforts are made for early and prompt disposal of refund claims. Government has consistently been impressing upon the Chief Commissioners of Income tax the need for taking effective steps for elimination of delay in this matter. However, the assessing officers who process the refund claims manually, need some time to process